ONGC:

(i) The major oil fields including Mumbai High are entering the natural declining phase with age.

(ii) Not significant or major oil field has been found in several years.

(iii) Continued environmental problems in Eastern region and its cascading effect has resulted in less base protential due to subdued drilling and work over activities.

(iv) Less gain from Enhanced Oil Recovery schemes in North Gujarat.

(v) Erratic Power supply from State Electricity Boards in Gujarat and Assam.

HPCL:

Crude throughput of Visakh Refinery suffered due to fire in the refinery in September, 1997 resulting in its closure and the subsequent delay in start-up of the refinery units.

BRPL:

Less availability of Crude Oil due to lower production in the NE-region.

Non-Vacation of Flats taken on Lease by PSUs

2417. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are many cases of illegal occupation of flats by IOC in Mumbai which were taken on lease even after expiry of the lease;

(b) if so, how many such cases of non-vacation are there in Mumbai;

(c) whether it is a fact that there are cases when the IOC is still in provision of such flats in Mumbai well after 5 to 10 years of lease expiry; and

(d) what steps are being taken to handover such flats to the rightful owners in due course?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (d) There are 27 such flats in Bombay which are in possession of IOC after expiry of the original lease period as statutory tenants. Government has laid down guidelines for deleasing of flats by the oil companies.